Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #:

Project Title: Proposed Amendments to Recreational Fishing Regulations for Rockfish, Cabezon, Greenling (RCG) and Lingcod, Title 14, California Code of Regulations

Lead Agency: California Fish and Game Commission

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Project Location (City/County): Statewide

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences)

The proposed regulations would continue to restore access to fishing depths that have been closed since 2023 to recreational fishing for RCG and lingcod to avoid encounters with quillback rockfish. To maintain catch of certain species within federally set allowable take levels, a sub-bag limit for canary rockfish, and inclusion of the cryptic-species sunset rockfish continue to be necessary to limit conservation risk. The Commission routinely adopts regulations for recreational RCG and lingcod for consistency with federal regulations, including those designed to keep catches within harvest limits. The purpose of the proposed project is to restore access to fishing grounds based upon updated scientific stock assessment information for the quillback rockfish stock off California. The current unwarranted restrictions highly constrain and concentrate recreational fishing access and efforts to a limited area of the state's waters. The proposed regulations would continue to remove these unneeded constraints, thereby alleviating this risk of redirection of recreational fishing efforts and pressure on RCG and lingcod stock in both federal and state waters. Additionally, adoption of scientifically based seasons, depth constraints, and other management measures provides for the protection of quillback rockfish and other RCG species and lingcod to ensure their continued existence. The proposed certificate of compliance action will also continue to implement a sub-bag limit for canary rockfish and maintain sunset rockfish limits which also serve to protect these rockfish species.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The initial study and the Commission's review of the project showed that the project will not have any significant or potentially significant effects on the environment, and that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the Commission, that the Project may have significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no alternatives or mitigation measures are proposed to avoid or reduce any significant effects on the environment.

The project will not have a significant effect on aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities and service systems, and wildfire.

Therefore, a negative declaration is filed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21080, subdivision (c).

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public: None known.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife